

CENSUS

UNITED STATES FOREIGN TRADE

SUMMARY REPORT
FT 930-I

DECEMBER 1959

FOR RELEASE
February 17, 1960

IMPORT TRADE BY COMMODITY

The Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce, announced today that the increase in United States annual imports for consumption from \$12,739.4 million in 1958 to the record total of \$14,987.1 million in 1959 reflected substantial increases in imports of all of the economic classes of commodities, except crude foodstuffs. From 1958 to 1959 finished manufactures rose from \$3,897.1 to \$5,168.1 million; semi-manufactures, from \$2,641.9 to \$3,304.8 million; crude materials, from \$2,760.0 to \$3,092.8 million; and manufactured foodstuffs, from \$1,504.1 to \$1,598.5 million. Imports of crude foodstuffs fell from \$1,936.3 million in 1958 to \$1,822.8 million in 1959.

Imports of dutiable commodities increased from \$7,397.9 million in 1958 to \$9,178.1 million in 1959. Imports of duty free commodities advanced from \$5,341.6 to \$5,809.0 million. Dutiable commodities represented about 61 percent of total imports for consumption during 1959 as compared to about 58 percent of the total during 1958.

The Bureau pointed out that December imports for consumption, also at a record high of \$1,431.6 million, were about 14 percent more than the November total of \$1,261.4 million and about 16 percent higher than the December 1958 total of \$1,230.8 million.

Imports of crude foodstuffs rose from \$129.2 million in November to \$189.5 million in December reflecting sizable increases in imports of coffee, from \$74.5 to \$113.3 million and cocoa beans, from \$10.2 to \$23.0 million. The bulk of the rise in imports of finished manufactures, from \$471.1 to \$508.1 million, resulted from increases in imports of automobiles and parts, from \$66.3 to \$88.4 million and newsprint, from \$60.9 to \$65.1 million. Imports of crude materials advanced from \$251.9 to \$283.3 million as increases occurred in imports of undressed furs, from \$4.6 to \$20.1 million; crude petroleum, from \$68.2 to \$79.1 million; ferroalloying ores, from \$11.4 to \$16.7 million; and unmanufactured wool, from \$5.9 to \$10.8 million. Imports of iron ore and concentrates, also included in this economic class, dropped from \$34.0 to \$27.3 million. Higher levels of imports of gas and fuel oil, from \$43.3 to \$51.1 million and aluminum, from \$10.8 to \$15.4 million, were the chief factors in the rise in imports of semimanufactures, from \$299.2 to \$322.7 million. Imports of manufactured foodstuffs rose from \$109.9 to \$127.9 million primarily as a result of increases in imports of meat products, from \$23.0 to \$32.2 million and cane sugar from \$17.9 to \$26.2 million.

EXPLANATION OF STATISTICS

COVERAGE: Import statistics include merchandise imported by government agencies as well as by private importers, but exclude American goods returned by the United States armed forces for their own use. United States trade with Puerto Rico, Hawaii, and United States possessions is not included in this report, but the import trade of Puerto Rico and Hawaii with foreign countries is included as a part of the United States import trade. Merchandise shipped in-transit through the United States between foreign countries is not included in import statistics.

VALUATION: Import values are, in general, based on market price or selling price, and are, in general, f.o.b. the exporting country. Import values also exclude United States import duties. None of the values have been adjusted for changes in price level.

EFFECT OF SAMPLING: Effective January 1958 formal entry shipments valued less than \$100 and informal entry shipments valued \$250 or less (less than one percent of total import value) are estimated by

sampling. These estimated values are shown in this table as "Estimated value \$1-\$99 formal and \$1-\$250 informal entry shipments" and are arbitrarily included in the total for "Finished manufactures". Prior to 1958 all imports valued \$250 or less whether reported on formal or informal entries were estimated by sampling and were shown separately by economic class. For convenience these estimates for 1957 are now included in the "All other" category for each economic class. For an indication of the effect the change in coverage and the change in presentation of sampled transactions have on the economic classes and commodity totals shown in this report effective with data for 1958, see the January 1958 issue of FT 930-I.

Further information regarding coverage, valuation, etc., is contained in the "General Explanation" in foreword of Report No. FT 110. For complete statement, see the foreword in Foreign Commerce and Navigation of the United States.

Prepared in the Bureau of the Census, Foreign Trade Division

For sale by the Bureau of the Census, Washington 25, D. C. Price 10¢, annual subscription \$1.00
for both FT 930-E and FT 930-I

USCOMM-DC

UNITED STATES IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF MERCHANDISE, BY ECONOMIC CLASSES AND LEADING COMMODITIES:
DECEMBER 1959 AND SELECTED PERIODS

(Quantity in units indicated; value in millions of dollars. Imports for consumption are a total of imports for immediate consumption plus withdrawals for consumption from bonded warehouses. Data revised to reflect all corrections published with statistics through those for December 1959. Totals represent sum of unrounded figures, hence may vary slightly from sum of rounded amounts. See the "Explanation of Statistics" for information on sampling procedures and effect thereof on data shown.)

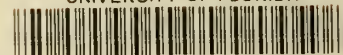
Economic class and commodity	December 1959	November 1959	December 1958	Monthly average	
				1958	1957
Total.....value..	1,431.6	1,261.4	1,230.8	1,061.6	1,079.2
Free.....value..	550.7	468.4	516.6	445.1	503.0
Dutiable.....value..	880.9	793.0	714.3	616.5	576.2
Crude materials.....value..	283.3	251.9	266.3	230.0	267.6
Hides and skins.....value..	5.4	5.9	5.2	4.5	4.1
Undressed furs.....value..	20.1	4.6	20.7	6.7	6.6
Crude rubber.....1,000,000 lb..	107	110	123	89	104
value..	36.0	36.6	31.1	20.9	29.4
Copra.....1,000 lb..	39,560	88,552	49,707	50,102	53,713
value..	3.8	7.9	4.2	4.0	3.4
Tobacco, unmanufactured.....1,000 lb..	10,647	12,719	10,607	11,543	10,345
value..	7.6	9.6	7.8	8.7	8.0
Cotton, unmanufactured.....1,000 lb..	7,811	7,303	7,907	12,190	13,692
value..	0.4	0.3	0.4	2.5	5.2
Jute and jute butts.....long tons..	7,168	5,194	2,998	3,121	4,977
value..	1.4	0.8	0.7	0.7	1.2
Sisal and henequen.....long tons..	9,694	9,410	12,176	9,767	10,409
value..	1.7	1.5	1.7	1.3	1.5
Wool, unmanufactured, free.....(1,000,000 lb.)..actual weight..	14	12	19	13	14
clean content ¹ ..	11	9	16	10	10
value..	7.3	6.1	8.8	6.6	8.5
Wool, unmanufactured, dutiable.....(1,000,000 lb.)..actual weight..	15	9	15	9	10
clean content ¹ ..	10	6	10	6	7
value..	10.8	5.9	9.2	7.1	9.1
Pulpwood.....1,000 cords..	93	93	104	114	147
value..	1.8	1.9	1.8	2.4	3.0
Crude petroleum.....1,000 bbl..	36,258	30,272	35,542	31,976	32,150
value..	79.1	68.2	87.0	78.3	81.7
Diamonds, rough or uncut.....1,000 carats..	90	179	190	94	83
value..	5.5	8.0	8.3	6.0	6.4
Diamonds, for industrial use.....1,000 carats..	1,157	920	773	839	1,051
value..	5.1	4.5	3.8	3.3	4.3
Iron ore and concentrates.....1,000 long tons..	3,035	3,813	1,882	2,296	2,806
value..	27.3	34.0	14.8	19.3	23.8
Ferroalloying ores.....value..	16.7	11.4	8.3	11.4	18.5
Copper (copper content).....1,000 lb..	7,268	416	11,934	16,884	18,994
value..	2.1	0.1	3.2	3.8	5.5
Lead (lead content).....1,000 lb..	7,156	24,671	21,642	39,772	39,676
value..	0.7	1.9	2.2	4.3	5.3
Tin (tin content).....long tons..	138	430	94	455	8
value..	0.3	1.0	0.2	0.9	(*)
Zinc (zinc content).....1,000 lb..	51,300	49,407	84,704	90,091	113,656
value..	1.5	2.0	3.5	4.3	7.4
Other nonferrous ores and concentrates.....value..	7.2	7.0	6.3	6.2	6.0
All other crude materials ²value..	41.3	32.3	37.0	26.9	28.7
Crude foodstuffs.....value..	189.5	129.2	192.6	161.4	168.4
Fish and shellfish.....1,000 lb..	49,157	38,637	46,034	39,847	32,738
value..	15.0	12.7	14.4	12.2	10.2
Cattle, except for breeding.....thousands..	62	59	121	94	59
value..	5.9	6.0	12.9	10.8	5.5
Grains.....value..	4.8	4.8	4.3	4.2	5.8
Vegetables, fresh and dried.....value..	4.8	2.1	2.2	3.8	2.2
Bananas.....1,000 bunches..	4,666	4,346	4,028	4,064	3,976
value..	7.1	6.1	6.0	5.8	5.8
Cocoa or cacao beans.....1,000,000 lb..	74	32	92	37	43
value..	23.0	10.2	34.1	14.4	11.2
Coffee, raw or green.....1,000,000 lb..	313	214	269	222	230
value..	113.3	74.5	103.4	97.5	114.7
Tea.....1,000 lb..	11,042	8,131	11,121	8,618	8,536
value..	5.6	4.3	5.3	4.0	4.2
Black pepper, unground.....1,000 lb..	3,247	1,692	2,286	2,889	2,713
value..	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6
All other crude foodstuffs ²value..	9.2	8.1	9.6	8.1	8.1

See footnotes at end of table.

UNITED STATES IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF MERCHANDISE, BY ECONOMIC CLASSES AND LEADING COMMODITIES:
DECEMBER 1959 AND SELECTED PERIODS—Continued

Economic class and commodity	December 1959	November 1959	December 1958	Monthly average	
				1958	1957
Manufactured foodstuffs.....value..	127.9	109.9	128.3	125.3	106.0
Meat products.....1,000 lb..	80,979	54,293	84,676	70,817	34,084
value..	32.2	23.0	34.0	27.9	15.3
Cheese.....1,000 lb..	8,753	6,576	6,648	4,645	4,240
value..	4.5	3.3	3.2	2.3	2.2
Fish and shellfish canned, prepared, etc.....1,000 lb..	48,651	48,272	32,841	39,886	37,175
value..	13.2	13.8	9.0	11.0	10.6
Fodders and feeds.....value..	1.7	1.4	2.6	1.8	1.7
Cane sugar.....1,000,000 lb..	486	330	589	772	690
value..	26.2	17.9	32.1	43.3	38.3
Molasses.....1,000 gal..	18,019	16,422	25,354	28,698	20,076
value..	2.3	2.3	3.6	3.7	3.3
Whisky.....value..	18.4	21.7	17.2	13.2	12.5
All other manufactured foodstuffs ²value..	29.5	26.6	26.5	22.2	22.2
Semimanufactures.....value..	322.7	299.2	261.9	220.2	243.3
Leather.....value..	4.3	3.8	3.7	2.6	2.6
Bristles.....1,000 lb..	323	302	250	200	208
value..	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.6
Expressed oils, inedible.....value..	4.1	4.9	4.2	4.1	4.2
Quebracho.....1,000 lb..	10,564	7,077	10,293	9,300	10,296
value..	0.9	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.8
Wool semimanufactures.....value..	4.8	4.2	4.7	3.7	4.0
Sawed boards, planks, deals, etc.....1,000,000 bd. ft..	271	312	310	283	245
value..	23.5	26.1	23.4	21.8	20.2
Wood pulp.....1,000 short tons..	204	233	198	175	175
value..	26.0	29.5	26.2	23.1	22.8
Gas and fuel oil.....1,000 bbl..	23,794	21,262	25,423	17,503	15,431
value..	51.1	43.3	54.6	41.5	41.4
Asbestos.....long tons..	42,215	40,429	42,021	43,706	46,670
value..	4.3	4.0	4.2	4.0	4.2
Diamonds, cut but not set.....1,000 carats..	107	60	80	60	51
value..	7.3	6.3	7.9	5.7	5.5
Iron and steel semimanufactures.....value..	43.8	40.9	12.5	7.5	4.8
Aluminum.....value..	15.4	10.8	14.2	11.8	10.8
Copper (copper content).....1,000,000 lb..	110	117	51	56	79
value..	34.9	36.6	13.9	13.7	23.7
Lead (lead content).....1,000 lb..	19,824	42,447	49,825	61,159	56,519
value..	3.7	6.5	5.9	6.6	7.6
Nickel and alloys.....1,000 lb..	21,687	21,352	7,724	15,448	23,133
value..	13.9	13.7	5.1	10.2	16.8
Tin.....1,000 lb..	7,363	6,728	10,426	8,275	11,422
value..	7.4	6.7	9.7	7.5	10.9
Zinc.....1,000 lb..	19,728	22,702	27,984	31,111	44,907
value..	2.4	2.6	2.5	3.0	5.4
Coal-tar products.....value..	5.7	3.2	2.7	3.9	3.9
Industrial chemicals.....value..	9.1	7.5	7.4	6.0	5.8
Fertilizers and materials.....1,000 short tons..	166	65	130	128	132
value..	6.3	2.7	4.7	4.9	5.0
All other semimanufactures ²value..	53.4	44.6	52.8	37.4	42.5
Finished manufactures.....value..	508.1	471.1	381.7	324.8	293.9
Leather manufactures.....value..	8.5	9.7	5.2	5.1	4.0
Essential or distilled oils.....value..	1.7	1.6	1.3	1.3	1.7
Cotton cloth.....1,000 sq. yd..	41,325	33,791	9,481	11,750	10,208
value..	7.7	6.5	2.5	3.2	2.9
Other cotton manufactures.....value..	12.7	13.1	7.7	9.3	8.1
Burlap.....1,000 yd..	80,181	77,369	67,813	70,910	71,349
value..	45,899	46,980	41,859	40,641	41,253
Flax, hemp and ramie manufactures.....value..	7.6	8.0	7.0	6.3	6.7
Wool manufactures.....value..	3.7	3.1	3.1	2.3	2.5
Silk manufactures.....value..	11.6	14.1	7.2	10.9	11.3
Shingles.....1,000 squares..	8.7	7.4	5.4	4.8	4.7
value..	175	221	212	178	159
Newsprint.....1,000 short tons..	1.7	2.3	1.9	1.6	1.6
value..	513	489	432	407	435
Other paper manufactures.....value..	65.1	60.9	54.5	51.2	54.8
Pottery.....value..	7.2	6.1	5.7	5.0	4.9
value..	5.3	5.2	3.5	3.9	3.7

See footnotes at end of table.



3 1262 08587 0664

4

UNITED STATES IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF MERCHANDISE, BY ECONOMIC CLASSES AND LEADING COMMODITIES:
DECEMBER 1959 AND SELECTED PERIODS—Continued

Economic class and commodity	December 1959	November 1959	December 1958	Monthly average	
				1958	1957
Finished manufactures—Continued					
Steel mill products.....value..	39.0	35.1	18.3	13.4	14.7
Iron and steel advanced manufactures.....value..	11.1	10.3	8.1	6.4	6.1
Agricultural machinery and implements.....value..	11.8	12.6	11.7	10.2	6.6
Automobiles and parts.....value..	88.4	66.3	67.4	46.0	28.1
Other machinery.....value..	51.8	48.7	34.9	28.8	28.1
Vehicles, except automobiles.....value..	10.7	12.1	8.7	10.5	8.0
Photographic goods.....value..	5.6	4.6	3.6	3.4	3.3
Scientific and professional instruments.....value..	3.7	3.4	2.8	2.4	2.2
Musical instruments and parts.....value..	3.1	3.5	1.8	1.6	1.7
Toys and sporting goods.....value..	5.5	4.8	3.3	3.4	3.5
Watches and watch movements, except parts.....value..	5.3	7.2	3.9	3.9	4.7
American goods returned.....value..	21.9	20.7	18.7	16.6	15.8
All other finished manufactures ²value..	97.9	92.7	82.3	65.1	64.1
Estimated value \$1-\$99 formal and \$1-\$250 informal entry shipments ²value..	10.8	11.2	11.1	8.3	xxx

*Indicates less than \$50,000.

¹Includes the actual weight of carbonized wool.

²For an explanation of the sampling procedures, see "Effect of Sampling" on front page.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE